

From: Durant, Jennah [Durant.Jennah@epa.gov]
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****Please note: All articles are available in the attached PDF.***

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1 – Shelter-in-place ordered due to benzene levels in Texas city where chemicals facility burned for 3 days, CBS News, 3/21/19

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/deer-park-texas-chemicals-facility-fire-shelter-in-place-benzene-live-updates-2019-03-21/>

The city of Deer Park, Texas, issued a shelter-in-place order early Thursday due to airborne levels of the hazardous chemical benzene in the wake of a three-day fire at a petrochemicals storage facility. City facilities, schools and some roads were closed.

2 - Flare-ups continue at Deer Park plant as emergency crews prepare for cleanup, Houston Chronicle, 3/21/19

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Deer-Park-chemical-fire-extinguished-overnight-13702369.php>

A fireball erupted at the Intercontinental Terminal Co. several hours after fire crews extinguished the days-long petrochemical blaze, causing black smoke to rise from the industrial site once again.

3 - Investigation set to begin amid smoldering Deer Park chemical tanks, Houston Chronicle, 3/21/19

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/With-Deer-Park-chemical-blaze-out-county-moves-13704650.php>

After fire crews extinguished the chemical blaze at the Intercontinental Terminals Co. in Deer Park early Wednesday, the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office prepared to send investigators to the smoldering site as state and local officials pledged to closely monitor pollution from the accident.

4 - Bill to change how Arkansas farms get permits draws EPA review, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 3/21/19

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2019/mar/21/bill-to-change-how-farms-get-permits-dr/>

Federal environmental regulators are reviewing an Arkansas Senate bill that would change how hog farms and other farms are permitted, concerned that it might have implications for the Clean Water Act and the state's implementation of that act.

5 - Mosaic stops pumping acid water from threatened lake in St. James, but is risk still there?, Baton Rouge Advocate, 3/20/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/article_d4c8bc48-4735-11e9-8169-8b4fb5e82d22.html

Mosaic Fertilizer recently stopped draining a giant threatened lake of acidic water atop its waste pile in St. James Parish that some feared could break open and release its hazardous contents to harm surrounding swamps.

6 – Secret weapon to get heavy metals from Tar Creek: Compost helps treat contaminated water for past decade, Tulsa World, 3/20/19

https://www.tulsaworld.com/news/local/secret-weapon-to-get-heavy-metals-from-tar-creek-compost/article_323eff40-0884-5f91-ae39-cc35f8396500.html

Something about the compost at J-M Farms in Miami not only makes conditions right for growing mushrooms, but the fine fungal medium can also do some heavy lifting.

7 – People are dying from dirty water, not climate — Wheeler, E&E News, 3/20/19

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/03/20/stories/1060127737>

EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler believes water scarcity — not climate change — is the biggest global environmental threat. He made that point twice today, first in an interview with CBS News that aired this morning and later during remarks at a Wilson Center event.

8 - San Antonio devises ways to cut ozone, asks for community's help, San Antonio Express-News, 3/21/19

<https://www.expressnews.com/news/local/politics/article/San-Antonio-devises-ways-to-cut-ozone-asks-for-13704806.php>

More telecommuting. Flexible work schedules. Retiring older, diesel-burning school buses. Using more electric vehicles. Those are among the proposed changes to cut San Antonio's ozone levels.

9 – \$100 million cyanide plant kept alive by Jefferson Parish Council, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 3/20/19

<https://www.nola.com/politics/2019/03/100-million-cyanide-plant-kept-alive-by-jefferson-parish-council.html>

Cornerstone Chemical Co.'s plans to build a \$100 million cyanide plant at Waggaman were kept alive Wednesday (March 20) when the Jefferson Parish Council put off voting to revoke the permit it granted more than a year ago.

10 – Texas Senate approves \$1.8 billion package to assist with Harvey recovery, guard against future storms, Texas Tribune, 3/20/19

<https://www.texastribune.org/2019/03/20/texas-senate-hurricane-harvey-disaster-relief-bills/>

The Texas Senate on Wednesday unanimously approved a bipartisan package of bills that would pull \$1.8 billion from the state's rainy day fund to aid in Hurricane Harvey recovery and plan for and protect against future storms. The legislation was named a top priority by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.

11 – Communities urged to boost immunity to 'shock events', E&E News, 3/21/19

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2019/03/21/stories/1060127817>

Local governments can better prepare for disasters by investing in resilience programs and tending to societal problems that are often made worse during and after catastrophes, a new scientific analysis has found.

12 – US judge blocks oil, gas drilling over climate change, Albuquerque Journal, 3/20/19

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1294146/us-judge-blocks-oil-gas-drilling-over-climate-worries.html>

A judge blocked oil and gas drilling across almost 500 square miles (1,295 sq. kilometers) in Wyoming and said the U.S. government must consider climate change impacts more broadly as it leases huge swaths of public land for energy exploration.

13 – Gulf lease bids hit \$244 million, 37 percent higher than August sale; double a year ago, Albuquerque Journal, 3/20/19

https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/business/article_44dfd966-4b5b-11e9-9014-577dc4239e0c.html

Oil and gas companies made \$244.3 million in high bids for federal leases in the Gulf of Mexico during a sale Wednesday. That's about 37 percent above what the last gulf-wide sale in August generated and nearly double the \$124 million that was raised at a lease sale in March 2018.

14 – Who's responsible for monitoring air quality in Texas?, KHOU, 3/20/19

<https://www.khou.com/article/news/local/whos-responsible-for-monitoring-air-quality-in-texas/285-a8860d26-4197-408b-aaad-32f9b5d55118>

Officials keep saying the air quality is safe, but a lot of our viewers say they don't trust them. Probably because of that huge black cloud of smoke looming over the entire area. But viewers might have another reason.

15 – EPA moves to regulate formaldehyde with health review hidden, E&E News, 3/20/19

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/03/20/stories/1060127777>

EPA today began considering regulations on 40 chemicals including formaldehyde, a widely used carcinogenic substance. The move — part of an effort to comply with the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act — immediately prompted concern from public health advocates, who want EPA to first publish its independent assessment of formaldehyde, and praise from the chemical industry.